

## **Stayton/Sublimity Chamber of Commerce**

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February 23, 2015

House Energy and Environment Committee

Re: Low Carbon Fuel Standard (SB 324)

Dear Chair Vega Pederson & Members of the Committee,

The Stayton/Sublimity Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 324 because it will negatively impact our businesses and our community.

Our local community and businesses are only now starting to enjoy the benefits of lower fuel prices. More disposable income is a very good thing for our businesses and our community.

We are opposed to SB 324 because it will result in fuel prices going back up as a result of the regulations. Our Chamber understands that the "success" of the Clean Fuels program requires that gas prices go up significantly. This is not good for a small community such as ours. It means less disposable income, especially for low income residents. It means less spending in our local businesses. All of this will have a negative impact on jobs in our community.

The Oregon DEQ projects that gasoline prices will increase between 6 and 19 cents per gallon under the LCFS. Other studies show that the price will be much greater, and that job losses will be significant. One economic study projects job losses will range from 9,000 to 29,000. Regardless of the number, we believe that whatever job gains may result from SB 324 will not be in our community. We are quite sure, however, that implementation of the LCFS will be yet another obstacle for potential economic recovery in our community.

Finally, our chamber is a proponent of investing in better roads and transportation infrastructure. Under SB 324, none of the money from the increased fuel costs will go toward fixing and improving our roads.

The Stayton/Sublimity Chamber of Commerce strongly urges you to vote 'no' on SB 324. We see no positive outcomes to our community as a result of this legislation.

Sincerely,

*Kelly Schreiber*

Executive Director